

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MEXICO 09138 021812Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----054180 021815Z /53
O 021806Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0587

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 09138

FOR BOSWORTH FROM LUCEY

EXDIS

E.O.11652:GDS
TAGS: ENRG, MX
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S DISCUSSION WITH DIAZ SERRANO

1. IN A CONVERSATION WITH DIAZ SERRANO THIS MORNING, I
RAISED THE QUESTION OF NATURAL GAS SALES TO THE UNITED
STATES. DIAZ SERRANO SAID THAT MEXICO HAS GAS THAT IT CAN
NOT USE, THAT IT HAS UNASSOCIATED GAS THAT IT CAN CAP AND
HOLD ON TO OR SELL AT ANY TIME IF THERE IS A MARKET, AND
THAT THOUGH HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY TENNECO ABOUT RE-
OPENING DISCUSSIONS HE HAD ADVISED TENNECO THAT THE RENEWAL
OF DISCUSSIONS NEEDED TO BE GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT. HE
REPORTED THAT TENNECO CLAIMED TO HAVE OBTAINED FROM
SCHLESINGER LAST WEEK AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE A NEW LETTER
OF INTENT AT \$2.60 PER THOUSAND CUBIC FEET.

2. I ASKED DIAZ SERRANO WHETHER HE THOUGHT THE TWO OF US
MIGHT TALK ABOUT THE SITUATION. HE SAID THAT THIS WOULD BE
POLITICALLY DIFFICULT FOR HIM. HE RECOMMENDED INSTEAD
THAT I ADVISE ROEL THAT I WOULD LIKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH
PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT.

3. IN MY JUDGMENT, DIAZ SERRANO WAS SPEAKING FRANKLY AND
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PRIVATELY AND I BELIEVE HE WAS SEEKING TO OFFER HIS BEST
ADVICE ABOUT HOW WE MIGHT GET NEGOTIATIONS BACK ON TRACK.
4. I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOUR CONCURRENCE THAT I REQUEST
AN APPOINTMENT WITH LOPEZ PORTILLO AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE
TIME, AND I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO HAVE YOUR INSTRUCTION ABOUT
THE RANGE OF ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTIONS I CAN OFFER TO THE
PRESIDENT ABOUT OPTIONAL WAYS TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS.

LUCEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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